

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

ONELIA VALDES,
Petitioner,
v.
SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,
Respondent.

No. 99-310V
Special Master Christian J. Moran
Filed: March 21, 2008

UNPUBLISHED DECISION*

Clifford J. Shoemaker, Esq., Shoemaker & Associates, Vienna, VA. for Petitioner;
Althea Walker Davis, Esq., U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., for Respondent.

On March 4, 2008, the parties filed a joint stipulation concerning the claim made in the petition filed by Onelia Valdes on May 14, 1999. Ms. Valdes alleges that the hepatitis B vaccination, which she received on October 31, 1996, November 27, 1996, and May 2, 1997, caused her to joint pain and rheumatoid arthritis. Ms. Valdes sought compensation for those injuries.

Respondent denies that Ms. Valdes's injuries were caused by the hepatitis B vaccinations.

* Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the special master's action in this case, the special master intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims's website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (Dec. 17, 2002).

Vaccine Rule 18(b) states that all decisions of the special masters will be made available to the public unless they contain trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged and confidential, or medical or similar information whose disclosure would clearly be an unwarranted invasion of privacy. When such a decision or designated substantive order is filed, petitioner has 14 days to identify and to move to delete such information before the document's disclosure. If the special master, upon review, agrees that the identified material fits within the banned categories listed above, the special master shall delete such material from public access.

Nevertheless, the parties agree to the joint stipulation, attached hereto as Appendix A. The undersigned finds said stipulation reasonable and adopts it as the decision of the Court in awarding damages, on the terms set forth therein.

Damages awarded in that stipulation include:

A lump sum of \$185,000.00 in the form of a check payable to Petitioner.

This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC, Appendix B, the clerk is directed to enter judgment in case 99-310V according to this decision and the attached stipulation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

S/ Christian J. Moran

Christian J. Moran
Special Master